

Daniel 10:19

Authorized King James Version (KJV)

And said, O man greatly beloved, fear not: peace be unto thee, be strong, yea, be strong. And when he had spoken unto me, I was strengthened, and said, Let my lord speak; for thou hast strengthened me.

Analysis

The messenger reassures Daniel: 'And said, O man greatly beloved, fear not: peace be unto thee, be strong, yea, be strong.' The repeated 'man greatly beloved' provides assurance, while 'fear not' addresses Daniel's terror. The double command 'be strong, yea, be strong' intensifies the exhortation—requiring supernatural strength beyond natural capacity. Daniel's response shows the strengthening's effectiveness: 'And when he had spoken unto me, I was strengthened, and said, Let my lord speak; for thou hast strengthened me.' The divine word itself strengthens—God's commands include power to obey them. Daniel moves from collapsed incapacity to readiness to receive further revelation. This demonstrates that God prepares His servants for assigned tasks, providing sufficient grace for each requirement.

Historical Context

The pattern—divine appearance, human terror, reassurance ('fear not'), strengthening, commission—structures theophanic encounters throughout Scripture: Gideon (Judges 6), Isaiah (Isaiah 6), Ezekiel (Ezekiel 1-3), Mary (Luke 1), Paul (Acts 9, 22, 26), John (Revelation 1). This consistent pattern validates genuine divine encounters versus false visions or psychological experiences. God's repeated reassurance and strengthening demonstrates His pastoral care—He

doesn't merely use servants as tools but strengthens them as beloved children. For Jewish exiles and persecuted Christians, this pattern encouraged: God strengthens His people for difficult callings; His presence provides sufficient grace. The strengthening's effectiveness (Daniel moving from incapacity to readiness) demonstrates divine grace's power.

Related Passages

John 15:13 — Greatest form of love

1 John 4:8 — God is love

Study Questions

1. How does the effectiveness of divine strengthening (incapacity to readiness) demonstrate grace's transforming power?
2. What does the pattern 'fear not...be strong' teach about God addressing both emotional (fear) and physical (weakness) needs?
3. Why does God repeatedly reassure Daniel of His love during this difficult experience?

Interlinear Text

לֹא שָׁלֹום ּוּמָת אִישׁ תִּקְאֵל אֶל מִכְהָה

And said

H408

fear

H3372

O man

H2530

not peace

H0

H559

H376

H7965

חִזְקָתְנִי

חִזְקָתְנִי

יְדַבֵּר

עֲמֵד

be unto thee be strong be unto thee be strong And when he had spoken

H2388

H2388

H1696

H5973

חִזְקָתְנִי

יְדַבֵּר

כִּי אָדָן

be unto thee be strong

H2388

And said

H559

And when he had spoken

H1696

Let my lord

H3588

H113

חִזְקָתְנִי

be unto thee be strong

H2388

Additional Cross-References

Isaiah 35:4 (Parallel theme): Say to them that are of a fearful heart, Be strong, fear not: behold, your God will come with vengeance, even God with a recompence; he will come and save you.

Joshua 1:9 (References Lord): Have not I commanded thee? Be strong and of a good courage; be not afraid, neither be thou dismayed: for the LORD thy God is with thee whithersoever thou goest.

Judges 6:23 (Peace): And the LORD said unto him, Peace be unto thee; fear not: thou shalt not die.

Daniel 9:23 (Love): At the beginning of thy supplications the commandment came forth, and I am come to shew thee; for thou art greatly beloved: therefore understand the matter, and consider the vision.

Revelation 1:17 (Parallel theme): And when I saw him, I fell at his feet as dead. And he laid his right hand upon me, saying unto me, Fear not; I am the first and the last:

John 14:27 (Peace): Peace I leave with you, my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid.

2 Corinthians 12:9 (Parallel theme): And he said unto me, My grace is sufficient for thee: for my strength is made perfect in weakness. Most gladly therefore will I rather glory in my infirmities, that the power of Christ may rest upon me.

John 19:26 (Love): When Jesus therefore saw his mother, and the disciple standing by, whom he loved, he saith unto his mother, Woman, behold thy son!

2 Timothy 2:1 (Parallel theme): Thou therefore, my son, be strong in the grace that is in Christ Jesus.

Psalms 138:3 (Parallel theme): In the day when I cried thou answeredst me, and strengthenedst me with strength in my soul.

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